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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/796,513	03/08/2004	Robert M. Sesek	100201931-2	1925

7590 05/03/2005

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EXAMINER

DOUGLAS, STEVEN O

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

3751

DATE MAILED: 05/03/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	10/796,513	SESEK ET AL.
	Examiner Steven O. Douglas	Art Unit 3751

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 18 January 2005.
- 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 2-10, 12-15, 18-23, 29, 33-37, 44, 45, 47 and 50-60 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 2-10, 12-15, 18-23, 29, 33-37, 44, 59 and 60 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) 45, 47 and 50-58 is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____. |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____. | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____. |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

- (b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.
- (e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language; or

the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371(c) of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

The changes made to 35 U.S.C. 102(e) by the American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA) and the Intellectual Property and High Technology Technical Amendments Act of 2002 do not apply when the reference is a U.S. patent resulting directly or indirectly from an international application filed before November 29, 2000. Therefore, the prior art date of the reference is determined under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) prior to the amendment by the AIPA (pre-AIPA 35 U.S.C. 102(e)).

Claims 2,3,7-9,12-14,18,22,29,36,44 and 49 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Schwenk et al.

The Schwenk et al. reference discloses an ink refilling apparatus comprising an ink cartridge 100, ink supply 20, a receptacle for receiving the ink cartridge (not shown), and control

electronics 10 with associated diagnostics and user interface to facilitate refilling of the cartridge as claimed.

Claim 60 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Kong.

The Kong reference discloses an ink refilling apparatus comprising an ink cartridge 12, ink supply 14, a receptacle 24 for receiving the ink cartridge, and a locking mechanism (54,56) as claimed.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 4-6,10,15,19-21,23,33-35,37,48,51 and 59 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Schwenk et al. in view of Howlett et al.

The Schwenk et al. reference discloses an ink refilling apparatus (supra), but does not disclose the apparatus as being automated based off of bar code technology. The Howlett et al. reference discloses another refilling apparatus having associated bar-code readers and printers for printing associated bar codes and receipts in order to minimized user interface and hence minimize associated human error. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the Schwenk et al. device to have associated bar code labels, printers and readers as, for example, taught by the Howlett et al.

reference in order to minimize human interface errors and hence advance the automation of the Schwenk et al. device.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments filed 1/18/05 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

In regard to Applicant's argument that Schwenk does not teach a user interface, see col. 10, lines 1-5 of Schwenk.

In regard to Applicant's argument that Schwenk does not teach a cartridge diagnostics unit, see col. 11, line 62 through col. 12, line 2 of Schwenk; and particular attention should be drawn to Fig. 5a and 5b of Schwenk.

In regard to Applicant's argument that Schwenk does not teach refusing to add ink to said cartridge, see col. 12, lines 24-29 of Schwenk.

In regard to Applicant's argument that neither Schwenk or Howlett teach a receipt printer, see col. 13, lines 46-66 of Howlett where a printer is discussed for printing a label including general information with respect to customer and contents (i.e. a receipt).

In regard to Applicant's argument that Howlett fails to teach a label reading mechanism or an identification label, see col. 13, lines 46-66; col. 14, lines 7-13; and col. 14, lines 21-25.

In regard to Applicant's argument that since restraining clips (54,56) of Kong can be removed at any time, Applicant's limitation of a locking mechanism is not met by such clips; Examiner disagrees since during normal filling operations the restraint that these clips provide act as a locking mechanism. To say that they can be removed at any time does not affect the

claim limitations since as, for example, a pad lock on a door could be cut off at any time and still function as a lock for the door.

Conclusion

THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

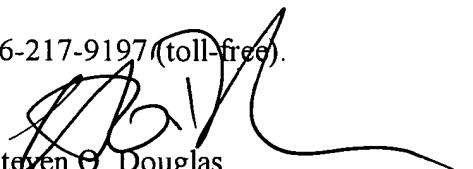
A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Claims 45,47,50 and 52-58 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Steven O. Douglas whose telephone number is (571) 272-4885. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Thurs 6:00-6:30.

The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Steven O. Douglas
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 3751

SD
5-2-05